

Dunham Singletary

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

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President's Letter

The annual board meeting of the Dunham-Singletary Family Connections Association was held on Sunday, 24 April 2016. For more details on the board meetings – the meeting minutes can be found on our website at <http://www.dunham-singletary.org/mw/images/f/fd/SecReport-Apr2016.pdf>.

At the annual board meeting we welcomed two new board members Eric Stoltz and Terry Ruppel who were voted in by the membership. My thanks for their stepping up to fill these positions and help guide our organization forward.

We continue on as an organization due to the support of all the members of the board of directors and officers, and also with the support and dedication of each individual member of Dunham-Singletary Family Connections.

My thanks to you all,

Jeffrey M. Dunham,
President

Editor's Corner

Members of the Dunham-Singletary line will be interested in reading the book by Greg Stott, *I Think I Have the Dunham Pedigree*. . . which details material about the Dunham/Donham family who left NJ in 1783 and went to Nova Scotia.

My second article is about the line from which Medal of Honor winner Corporal Jason Dunham is descended. I have been searching for this line, and recent research has discovered it.

Eric Stoltz, who has contributed articles to this newsletter in the past, has kindly allowed me to reprint his most recent research on the Dunham families of ME. Eric is working on a series of articles that may be found at <http://stoltzfamly.us/tag/maine-in-1790>. Eric is trying to locate the family of James Dunham, living in Orland, Hancock County, Maine in 1790 by reconstructing all the Dunham families in ME found in the 1790 census. The article in this issue is the first of a series that Eric is working on.

Gratia Dunham Mahony,
Editor

“I Think I Have the Dunham Pedigree. . .

The Story of the Robert and Louisa (Green) Dunham Family”

A book review by Gratia Dunham Mahony

Greg Stott, of Arkona, Ontario, Canada has been working on this Dunham/Donham ancestry for many years. He has recently self published a book entitled “*I Think I Have the Dunham Pedigree . . . The Story of the Robert and Louisa (Green) Dunham Family*”. As the author states in his preface “This book is an attempt to give life, background and explanation to the Dunham family of Arkona, Ontario and their antecedents.” Those antecedents, as proved by very strong circumstantial evidence, were from the Dunham-Singletary line of Woodbridge, Middlesex County, New Jersey.

While vital records of birth or baptism of some of the Woodbridge Dunhams no longer exist, Greg Stott has done a remarkably thorough job of locating every shred of evidence for compiling this family line. The book is well written and the detailed chapters about the life of Isaac and Anne (Gach/Gage) Dunham and their son Thomas Dunham of St. John and East Gwillimbury, Canada are filled with descriptive passages and in some cases bits of data from family letters.

Please see the web site www.Dunham-Singletary.org for the beginning of this line as I have researched it, and note the material in the Archives Section of the web site which provides additional information about Jonathan ² Dunham, and his son David ³ Dunham. The surname was spelled variously as DUNHAM or DONHAM by the several branches of this line. Also see articles written previously in this newsletter about David ³ Dunham. [Volume 2, Issue 1, January 15, 2005, p. 16 “1776: The Loyalist Dunhams of Canada” by Lloyd E. Dunham; and Volume 4, Issue 2, April 15, 2007 p. 35 “David ³ Donham of Woodbridge, New Jersey”]

Other author/researchers have worked diligently to try to identify this large Dunham/Donham clan from Woodbridge, New Jersey. Most recently these were Yvonne Miller Brunton [*Brunton, Yvonne Miller, The Singletary Family History, 1599-1989 with collected Research (1989), Heritage papers, Danielsville, GA*]; and Patty Barthell Myers [Ancestors and Descendants of Lewis Ross Freeman with related families, Penobscot Press, 1995]. Greg Stott has used this last reference often in his book.

The Dunham/Donham line begins of course with **Richard ¹ Singletary** and his first son Jonathan ² born in Newbury, Essex County, MA 17 January 1639/40, died about 1724 in Woodbridge, Middlesex County, NJ. Jonathan ² married Mary Bloomfield, daughter of Colonel Thomas Bloomfield. She was born in Newbury, MA 15 January 1642, and died in 1705. **Jonathan ² Dunham** used this surname from the time that he moved from Haverhill, MA to Woodbridge, NJ about 1665. Jonathan built and operated the grist mill in Woodbridge. His house, (now

restored) adjoins the Trinity Church and Cemetery in Woodbridge. A mill stone from his mill has been placed at this site by descendants as a memorial to him. (see the home page of the Dunham-Singletary.org web site for photos of the house and mill stone.)

The line continues with **David³ Dunham** (Jonathan² Singletary/alias Dunham, Richard¹ Singletary) born in Woodbridge Middlesex County New Jersey 10 March 1673/4; died in Woodbridge New Jersey in 1750-1757. David married in New York City 16 or 18 August 1699 **Mary Ilslee/Ilsley**, daughter of John² Ilsley (William¹ Ilsley). She was born in Woodbridge New Jersey 13 April 1680.

Among the children of David³ and Mary (Ilsley) Dunham was **David⁴ Jr. Dunham** (David³ Dunham, Jonathan² Singletary/alias Dunham, Richard¹ Singletary) born in Woodbridge, Middlesex County New Jersey say 1705; died 13 May 1758 aged 53 years. He is buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery, Woodbridge New Jersey. He married in Woodbridge New Jersey about 1728 **Mary³ Freeman**, daughter of Henry² and Elizabeth (Benue) Freeman. She was born in Woodbridge New Jersey 5 June 1702, died in Woodbridge in 1784.

Isaac⁵ Dunham (David^{4,3} Dunham, Jonathan² Singletary/alias Dunham, Richard¹ Singletary) born in Woodbridge, Middlesex County New Jersey say 1737. He married in Woodbridge 22 September 1759 **Ann Gage?/Gash/Gach**. [From New Jersey Marriages microfilm FHLC 0888703 Vol. D. (1736-1791), copyright © 1999 by Patricia M. Bergener; #129; Isaac Donham of Woodbridge, yeoman, and Benow (Benew) Donham of the same...[bound to]...Francis Bernard, Governor...500 pounds...22 Aug. 1759...Isaac Donham...obtained license of marriage for himself and for Anne Gach of Woodbridge af'd, spinster...[w] Tho:s Bartow.]

Woodbridge in the Revolution

The area of Woodbridge suffered depredations from both the British and the American sides during the Revolutionary War. These included British soldiers gathering from the residents large herds of cattle and sheep with the intention that these would feed their troops. As soon as the animals were assembled a rebel force came at night and stole beef and mutton for their side. We know that families were split about which side to support, and it is not surprising that some were of the opinion that supporting the British was the more prudent way to go. At any rate Isaac Dunham served in a militia company of men under the command of John Ford, known as 'Unit 45' of the New Jersey Volunteer regiment. An article in *The New Jersey Gazette* dated Oct. 18, 1778 noted that "inquisitions have been found against the following persons who have joined the army of the King of Great Britain..." The name of Isaac Dunham headed the list.

As the war ended the situation facing the Loyalists was quite grim. It was becoming increasingly clear that the Loyalists did not figure into any possible settlement regarding their property rights. Negotiations ensued and in the end Nova Scotia's governor John Parr offered

to settle a certain number of the Loyalists there. Isaac Dunham was part of a massive exodus of refugees from New York to Nova Scotia.

On Dec. 18, 1786 Isaac Dunham appeared before the commissioners in St. John to prove his loyalty and loss in the service of the crown. It took some time but Isaac did eventually receive Parrrtown Lot 301, and his son David was given Lot 293. Isaac also was granted Lot 17 on the Kennebecasis River, and by 1786 Isaac was residing on his farm on the Kennebecasis. In 1802 Isaac's neighbor, Elizabeth Traviss, whose own daughter and namesake had married Isaac's son Thomas about 1788, turned over her property, Lot 18 to her son. In her affidavit she noted that her land bordered upon that of Isaac Dunham. It is unknown just when Isaac died as there is no record of a probated will in New Brunswick.

Research of Greg Stott

It is from this point that the research done by Greg Stott provides strong circumstantial evidence that Isaac⁵ and Ann (Gach) Dunham were the parents of five children. Myers, in her book *Ancestors and Descendants of Lewis Ross Freeman* on p 41-42 does show two children: Thomas and David. I want to give credit to several other people who have worked with me on this ancestral line. Lloyd Dunham, of Gananoque, Ontario pointed me to the information on the Loyalists of New Jersey who went to St. John. Lloyd also sent me the copy of the book produced by Greg Stott from which this article is derived. Lindsay Dunham of Belgium did a great deal of work on this line a number of years ago, and shared his work with me. The most definitive work was done by Gloria Jean Phillips of Toronto who had access to the Canadian Archives of Ontario, and she shared her extensive files with me. Gloria Jean Phillips shows the same five children of Isaac⁵ and Ann (Gach) Dunham as does Greg Stott. They are the following:

- + i. Thomas⁶ Dunham b. 4 June 1762
- ii. David⁶ Dunham b. Jan. 1765

Greg Stott refers to a transcription of a letter written by Isabel (Dunham) Gage, dated Aug. 3, 1794 and sent to her brother in Nova Scotia. According to the letter "John Dunham had been married, his first wife had died and he had subsequently remarried. Mention was also made of Betsy, who at least at that point was not married. Thus, Greg Stott gives three more children:

- iii. Isabel⁶ Dunham
- m. John Gage
- iv. John⁶ Dunham
- v. Betsy⁶ Dunham

The Difficult Life of Thomas ⁶ Dunham and his two wives

Thomas Dunham was born into a vast network of related families living in Woodbridge and Perth Amboy, New Jersey. These families had been living in Woodbridge for several generations and their intermarriages included families of Anglican, Presbyterian and Quaker faiths.

We have seen that Thomas' father, Isaac Dunham had joined the British side in the Revolutionary War. Thomas, at the time in his mid teens, enlisted in a loyalist regiment as an engineer. Thus, at the end of the war, Thomas was among other British sympathizers who were then refugees in New York City waiting transport to the British domain of Nova Scotia.

In 1786 Thomas and his brother David, jointly received a two hundred acre land grant on the Kennebecasis River. This was in an area where a number of New Jersey families were settled. This area is near St. John, although it is quite a ways outside the city. Isaac ⁵ Dunham had received a 200 acre land grant on the Kennebecasis, and Thomas may have lived here on this property with his father. This grant joined that of a widow, Elizabeth Traviss, and it is likely that this is how Thomas met Elizabeth Traviss's daughter and namesake, who became his wife.

The marriage of Thomas ⁶ to Elizabeth Traviss probably occurred in 1788-89, as their first child was born on 10 October 1789. Thomas and his family remained on this Kennebecasis farm until spring of 1802 when they joined a group of thirteen other families and moved north to Upper Canada. Upon application for 200 acres of free land Thomas' patent was granted and the family settled in East Gwillimbury, York County, Canada.

Life was not easy in this new location, and Greg Stott goes into quite a bit of detail in describing the life of settlers in East Gwillimbury. Elizabeth (Traviss) Dunham died there, probably in about 1820. Two years later Thomas Dunham, now about age sixty, married again to Elizabeth (Betsy) Lewis. Betsy and her family had also migrated to Upper Canada. Thomas Dunham wrote his will in August 1835, naming his children by each of his wives.

Children of Thomas ⁶ and Elizabeth (Traviss) Dunham (first seven b. in Kings Co., New Brunswick, Canada: [as given by Greg Stott and there is more information in his book about these children and their offspring]

- i. Elizabeth (Betsy) ⁷ Dunham b. 10 Oct. 1789
 - m. Thomas Drury Emes
- ii. Annie ⁷ Dunham b. 31 July 1791
 - m. Silas Emes
- iii. Sarah (Sally) ⁷ Dunham b. 31 July 1793
 - m. ¹ Mark Fenton
 - m. ² Peter DeGeer
 - m. ³ George Foster
- iv. Ira ⁷ Dunham b. 16 April 1795

- v. Fanny (Frances) ⁷ Dunham b. 27 May 1797
m. Jacob Hollingshead
- vi. Thomas Gage ⁷ Dunham b. 5 July 1799
m. ¹ Elizabeth Cummings
- vii. Ezekiel ⁷ Dunham b. 12 June, 1801; d. y.
- viii. William ⁷ Dunham b. 8 Feb. 1803 in York County, upper Canada
m. ¹ Lydia Evans
- ix. David ⁷ Dunham b. 27 June 1806; d.y.
- + x. Elijah ⁷ Dunham b. 24 April 1810
- xi. Henry ⁷ Dunham b. 30 August 1812; d. y.

Children by Thomas ⁶ and Betsy (Lewis) Dunham, b. in Upper Canada:

- xii. Ephraim ⁷ Dunham b. 15 Oct. 1823
m. Jane Willson
- xiii. Mary Jane ⁷ Dunham b. 8 Sept. 1825
m. Charles Traviss
- xiv. John L. ⁷ Dunham b. 12 Dec. 1827
m. Mary Graham
- xv. Reid ⁷ Dunham b. 22 Aug. 1832
m. Phillis Dickinson

Elijah ⁷ and Anna Maria (Briggs) Dunham

Elijah ⁷ Dunham and Anna Maria Briggs were married in East Gwillimbury on November 25, 1832. They made their first home three and a half miles north of the Thomas Dunham property which was on Lot 29 in East Gwillimbury. Later on Elijah and Anna Maria moved to Lot 21, Concession 5. Around 1848 the family left East Gwillimbury and moved to Peel Township in Wellington County, Canada West. The farm stood on the banks of the Conestoga River. By spring of 1866 Elijah and Anna Maria had again moved. This time they followed their son Billy Dunham to Osage, Iowa, but remained there only a short while. By the end of 1866 they had returned to Canada West and settled in the village of Petersville, outside of London. Within a short time they had rented a farm in Lobo Township. They remained in Lobo until about 1872 and then left with their son Wilmot to go to Watford, Ontario.

Elijah and Anna Maria celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in Watford on Nov. 25, 1892.

Elijah died in Watford on July 19, 1893. Anna Maria lived a few more years and passed away at the age of eighty-six on May 29, 1899.

This chapter includes many excerpts from family letters. These letters illustrate the times and circumstances of their lives and the lives of some of their children. It is of interest to those who

are members of this family line of course, but the descriptions and the family photographs in this chapter are indicative of the lives of many people living in Canada during the 19th century.

Children of Elijah ⁷ and Anna Maria (Briggs) Dunham: all born in East Guillimbury except the last one.

- i. Elizabeth Ann ⁸ Dunham b. 6 Sept. 1833 in East Guillimbury, York Co. Canada
m. Matthew Ebenezer Lowes
- ii. Thomas ⁸ Dunham b. 16 Feb. 1836
- + iii. Robert ⁸ Dunham b. 19 Feb. 1838
- iv. William (Billy) Henry Harrison ⁸ Dunham b. 30 July 1840
m. Jane Farrow
- v. Jonathan (Jonty) Briggs ⁸ Dunham b. 12 August 1843
m. Edith Walker
- vi. Walter Gage ⁸ Dunham b. 26 December 1845
- vii. John Wilmot ⁸ Dunham b. 30 August 1848
m. Julia Frances Emes
- viii. Martha Wilson ⁸ Dunham b. 30 June 1856 in Peel Twp. Wellington Co. Canada
m. William Henry Cole

Robert ⁸ and Louisa (Green) Dunham

The line given by Greg Stott continues with Robert ⁸ Dunham. This chapter is filled with narrative, maps, and photos of various members of this line.

Robert ⁸ Dunham (Elijah ⁷ Thomas ⁶ Isaac ⁵ David ^{4,3} Jonathan ² Singletary/alias Dunham, Richard ¹ Singletary) born in East Gwillimbury Township, York County Upper Canada (now Ontario) 19 February 1838; d. in Arkona Ontario 28 September 1917. He married **Louisa Green** daughter of William and Ann (Thorndyke) Green. She was born in Port Hope, Durham County, Canada West 1 February 1848, died in Arkona Ontario 2 October 1894.

Children of Robert and Louisa (Green) Dunham:

- i. Maria ⁹ Dunham b. 9 September 1865
- ii. Walter ⁹ Dunham b. 1 October 1867
d. Arkona 5 January 1882
- iii. Herbert ⁹ Dunham b. 17 March 1870 in Biddulp Twp. Middlesex Co. Ontario
- iv. Mabel ⁹ Dunham b. 18 September 1872 in Lobo Twp.
- + v. Colonel Cecil ⁹ Dunham b. 19 July 1875 in Lobo Twp.
- vi. Ethelbert ⁹ Dunham b. 18 October 1877 in Lobo Twp.
- vii. Loftus ⁹ Dunham b. January 1880 Bosanquet Twp. Lambton County Ontario
d. 19 July 1881

- viii. Loftus Lloyd ⁹ Dunham b. 25 May 1884
- ix. Myrtle Louisa ⁹ Dunham b. 18 January 1887 Bosanquet Twp.
- x. Florence Hazel ⁹ Dunham b. 27 October 1890 Bosanquet Twp.
- xi. Heather Fordyce ⁹ Dunham b. 14 March 1894 Bosanquet Twp.

The remainder of the book (p. 189-444) carries out the lives and genealogy of the above eleven children. This includes Greg Stott's own line which continues from **Colonel Cecil ⁹ Dunham** and his wife Lorena Jane McChesney. Next in line is **Thomas Milton Russell ¹⁰ Dunham** and Dorothy Jean Houghton. Their daughter **Margaret Lynne ¹¹ Dunham** married Kenneth Glenn Stott and they were the parents of **Gregory ¹² Stott**, the author of this book.

This excellent book (ISBN #0-9684071-4-5) is available from the author:

G. Stott Publishing
R. R. #1
Arkona, Ontario
NOM 1B0, CANADA

Who Was Jason Dunham?

By Gratia Dunham Mahony

Yes, we all know that Jason Dunham was the Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient. He served in the US Marine Corps as a Corporal in K Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines. On April 14, 2004 Corporal Dunham was manning a checkpoint in Iraq when an insurgent leapt from his car and began attacking him. As two Marines approached to help, the insurgent dropped a grenade. Corporal Dunham took off his Kevlar helmet, dropped to the ground, and covered the explosive. But the blast seriously wounded all three Marines. Eight days later, Corporal Jason Lee Dunham, age 22, died at Bethesda Naval Hospital from the wounds he received. We know this, and we honor him for his act of bravery. **But, just who was this young man? What Dunham line did he come from?**



Jason Lee Dunham (1981-2004)

I have been searching for the Dunham family to which Jason belongs for some time. I knew that his home was in Scio, Allegany County, New York, and that his parents were Dan and Debra. However, my original search did not allow me to find the name of his grandfather on the Dunham side, and I didn't have any luck searching the 1940 census for a Dan Dunham. It turns out that his father, Dan (actually Charles Daniel) was born in 1941, so would not have been on the 1940 census.

Recently I did another search and discovered an obituary that I had not seen before. This gave the names of the family of Jason Dunham; father, Daniel of Scio; mother Debra, brothers Justin

and Kyle; sister Katelyn; and grandparents Murray and Linda Dunham of Arkport. Now I had information to try to trace the family line back.

Murray A. Dunham appears on the US 1940 Census living in Presque Isle, Aroostook County, Maine. His birthplace is listed as "Canada" and the family group is:

Roy A. Dunham	39
Rita K. Dunham	32
Murray A. Dunham	18
Edwin R. Dunham	8
Harley D. Dunham	6
Alden L. Dunham	1

From the Findagrave website, Murray A. Dunham died 8 May, 1987 and is buried in the Arkport Heritage Hill Cemetery, Arkport, Steuben County, New York.

Another document I saw was US Border Crossings from Canada to United States. This document shows Murray Austin Dunham arrival Date 11 August 1935 in Bridgewater, Maine. His age is 13 years 4 months and his birthplace is listed as East Newbridge, New Brunswick, Canada. He was accompanied by his father, Roy Allison Dunham and his grandmother Addie Harris. I found a marriage record in Woodstock, Carleton County, New Brunswick, Canada for Roy Allison (Widower) Dunham dated 19 Dec. 1945, to Jessie May (Widow) McArthur, daughter of Ezra Pike and Mary Clark. Roy Allison Dunham's parents were shown as Bertram Dunham and Addie Schriver. Then I found the cemetery where Roy Allison Dunham is buried on the www.findagrave.com web site. The stone in Temperance Vale Cemetery, Temperance Vale, York County, New Brunswick, Canada gives the year of birth of Roy Allison Dunham as 1900; death as 1964. The headstone also includes Jessie M. Pike b. 1902; d. 1986.

My next search was for Bertram Dunham, and from the New Brunswick Provincial Returns of Births and Late Registrations I found Bertram Moore Dunham b. 19 March 1877 in Campbell Settlement, York County, New Brunswick, Canada. His parents were listed as Charles William Dunham and Lorraine Fox. From New Brunswick Provincial Marriages I found that Bertram Dunham married in Carleton, New Brunswick on 26 November 1919 to Thessa L. Harris, daughter of Wilmot Harris.

Was This the Dunham-Singletary Line?

All of the above information was beginning to paint a picture in my mind that this Dunham line came from the Dunham-Singletary line of Woodbridge, and that they were probably United Empire Loyalists who came to St. John (which is quite near both Temperance Vale and the Campbell Settlement and also Middle Southampton where Pvt. Bertram M. Dunham was buried in 1961). My search continued and I found information on Charles William Dunham as follows.

According to his Death Certificate, Charles William Dunham was born January 9, 1840 in Poksok, New Brunswick. He died July 21, 1920 age 80 years 6 months and 3 days. The name of his father was Justus Dunham of St. Stephen, and the name of his mother was Hannah Fox of Southampton. The informant was his son Bertram Dunham. St. Stephen is right on the border of Maine, USA, and right across the St. Croix River from Calais, Maine. Charles William Dunham was buried in August 1925 in New Lenentine Cemetery, Middle Southampton, York County, as is his wife Loraine A. (Fox) Dunham who was b. July 28, 1846; d. Oct. 20, 1901. Pvt. Bertram M. Dunham (1875-1961) is also buried in New Lenentine Cemetery, Middle Southampton. (It should be noted that Peter A. Dunham, b. 31 May 1848; d. 18 Nov. 1913 and his wife Eunice Evelyn (Schriver) Dunham b. 3 March 1853; d. 23 May 1919 are also buried in New Lenentine Cemetery, Middle Southampton. Peter A. Dunham and Charles W. Dunham were brothers.)

I Have Justus Dunham in my Research Files

I remembered seeing a Justus Dunham in my research, and when I looked him up he is not from the Dunham-Singletary line at all. He is a descendant of Deacon John Dunham through his son Joseph ² Dunham. Justus Dunham was b. 29 April 1817 at Tower Hill, Charlotte County, New Brunswick, Canada. Tower Hill is just north east of St. David Parish and the town of St. Stephen. Justus Dunham died 29 November 1876 in the Campbell Settlement, York County, New Brunswick, Canada. Justus married 3 January 1844 Hannah Rosanna Fox.

Justus Dunham was the son of Samuel Dunham who was born 26 August 1792 at Carmel, Penobscot County, Maine, and who died in October 1863. Samuel moved to Charlotte County, New Brunswick about 1814 and he married on 22 September 1816 in Charlotte County to Susan Foster. She was born April 1794 in Machias, Maine, and she died in 1873 in St. David Parish, Charlotte County, New Brunswick. Susan Foster was daughter of Benjamin Foster of Machias.

Moving back along this line I have Samuel Dunham as the son of James Dunham and Elizabeth Robbins. James Dunham was born in Plympton, Plymouth County, Massachusetts on 12 September 1758, and he died in Carmel, Penobscot County Maine 15 August 1827. He is buried in the Village Cemetery in Carmel Maine. He married 19 October 1780 Elizabeth Robbins, daughter of Samuel and Sarah (House) Robbins of Middleboro, Massachusetts. James is generation number 6 and he is a son of Cornelius ⁵ and Patience Barrows of Plympton and Abington, Massachusetts. Please see the Dunham-Singletary web site at www.Dunham-Singletary.org under the line of John Dunham of Plymouth for this line back which is Israel ⁴, Eleazer ³ Joseph ² John ¹ Dunham.

The Joseph Dunham Family of Biddeford, Maine in 1790

By Eric Stoltz

There were 13 Dunham households in Maine recorded in the first United States Federal Census in 1790. One of these households must have been the family of James Dunham Jr. (~1788-1863) of Orland, Hancock County, Maine, my third great-grandfather. This post is one of a series to understand each of these Dunham families.

The first family in our exploration of the Dunham households of 1790 Maine is that of Joseph Dunham of Biddeford in York County. Joseph appears to have been originally from Wells, York County, and moved to Biddeford after the death of his first wife. I have not been able to document his parents, but they could very well be Jeremiah Dunham and Anna Frost, both of Wells, who entered their intent to marry in Wells 4 February 1749.¹

Biddeford had a population of 1,018 in 1790, according to the first federal census of the United States as required by the 1789 Constitution. The town was incorporated in 1728, but its twin city Saco, originally named Pepperellborough, is one of the oldest European settlements in Maine; the first Europeans landed in the area in 1616 and it was settled by 1631.

There being no other Dunham household in Biddeford in 1790, we can reconstruct Joseph's family according to various records. Thus we can identify the family members corresponding to the census numbers (documentation provided in the register section below).

Table 1: Family of Joseph Dunham of Biddeford in the 1790 Census

Census Classification	Number	Name	Age	Born
Males 16 and over	1	Joseph	at least 35*	bef 1756
Males under 16	3	Joseph	abt 13	1777
		Jeremiah	abt 12	1778
		John	abt 8	1782
Females	4	Miriam	say 34*	say 1756
		Hephzibah	abt 10	1780
		Mary	abt 6	abt 1784
		Nancy	abt 4	abt 1786

* The estimated ages/birthdates of Joseph and Miriam are based on the age groupings of their 1800 census records.

¹ Record of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Town of Wells, Maine, 1695-1826, FHL film 007596955, image 26.

Those unfamiliar with pre-1850 U. S. censuses may be surprised to learn that only the names of the heads of households — virtually always men — were recorded. Women, children and slaves were merely numbers. Maine residents were not slaveholders, so I have omitted the slave tally because it was in all cases empty.

The compiled family register follows.

First Generation

1. Joseph Dunham².

Born before 1756.³ On 2 Dec 1775 Joseph first married **Hephzibah Whitney**, daughter of Dr. John Whitney & Hephzibah Adams, in Wells, York, Maine.⁴ Born in York, York, Maine on 30 Jan 1755.⁵

They had the following children:

- i. Joseph. Born on 31 Jan 1777 in York, York, Maine.⁶ Joseph died in Salem, Franklin, Maine, on 8 Oct 1796; he was 19.⁷
- ii. Jeremiah. Born on 29 Jun 1778 in York, York, Maine.⁸
On 9 Jan 1802 when Jeremiah was 23, he married **Elsa (Alice?) Goodale** in Biddeford, York, Maine.⁹
- 2** iii. Hephzibah (24 Jul 1780-?)
- 3** iv. John (21 Oct 1782-23 Dec 1845)

On 23 Apr 1785 Joseph second married **Miriam Berry** in Biddeford, York, Maine.¹⁰

² 1790 U. S. Federal Census, Biddeford, York, Maine: Joseph Dunham, 3 males under 16, 1 male 16 or older, 4 females.

³ 1800 U. S. Federal Census, Biddeford, York, Maine: Joseph Dunham, age 45 or over.

⁴ FamilySearch, "Maine Marriages, 1771-1907," FHL film 12622.

⁵ Lester MacKenzie Bragdon and John E. Frost, *Vital Records of York, Maine, prior to 1892* (Rockport, Maine: Picton Press, 1992) p. 75.

⁶ Lester MacKenzie Bragdon, A.B., LL.B., "Vital Records of York, Maine," *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, vol. 112, October 1958, p. 307.

⁷ James L. Hansen, FASG, "Probate and Miscellaneous Notices from the Eastern Herald and Gazette of Maine of Portland September 1796-December 1797," *The Maine Genealogist*, (August 2005), p. 108: "Died last Wednesday in Salem of small pox, Mr. Joseph Dunham, age 20, son of Mr. Joseph Dunham of Biddeford." (8 Oct 1796).

⁸ "Vital Records of York, Maine," *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, p. 307.

⁹ John D. Beatty, ed., *Vital Records of Biddeford, Maine Prior to 1856*, Picton Press (Camden, Maine, 1998), p. 144.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* p. 121.

They had the following children:

- i. Mary. Born abt. 1784 in Maine.¹¹
On 21 Nov 1805 Mary married **Humphrey Pike**, son of Israel Pike (26 Aug 1743-8 Nov 1815) & Sarah _____, in Biddeford, Maine.¹² Born on 12 Sep 1780 in Saco, York, Maine.¹³ Humphrey died in Saco, York, Maine, on 28 Apr 1808; he was 27.¹⁴
- ii. Nancy. Born abt 1786. Nancy died in Biddeford, York, Maine, on 17 Aug 1802; she was 16.¹⁵

Second Generation

2. **Hephzibah Dunham** (*Joseph*¹). Born on 24 Jul 1780 in York, York, Maine.¹⁶

On 19 Aug 1798 when Hephzibah was 18, she married **Israel Pike**, son of Israel Pike (26 Aug 1743-8 Nov 1815) & Sarah _____, in Biddeford, York, Maine.¹⁷ Born on 8 Jun 1773 in Saco, York, Maine.¹⁸

They had the following children:

- i. Humphrey. Born on 27 Aug 1800 in Biddeford, York, Maine.¹⁹
- ii. Israel French. Born on 29 Mar 1809 in Biddeford, York, Maine.²⁰

¹¹ 1850 U. S. Federal Census, Westbrook, Cumberland, Maine: Mary Pike, age 66.

¹² FamilySearch, "Maine Marriages, 1771-1907," FHL film 10601, p. 334a.

¹³ City of Saco, *First Book of Records of the Town of Pepperrellborough Now The City of Saco* (Saco, Maine: 1895), p. 140.

¹⁴ Ibid. p. 215.

¹⁵ *Falmouth Gazette*, Falmouth, Cumberland, Maine, 23 Aug 1802: "16 years, daughter of Joseph Dunham of Biddeford, of yellow fever," cited in David C. Young and Elizabeth Keene Young, *Vital Records from Maine Newspapers, 1785-1820*, Heritage Books (Bowie, Maryland: 1993).

¹⁶ "Vital Records of York, Maine," *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, p. 307.

¹⁷ *Vital Records of Biddeford, Maine Prior to 1856*, p. 141.

¹⁸ City of Saco, p. 140.

¹⁹ *Vital Records of Biddeford, Maine Prior to 1856*, p. 172.

²⁰ Ibid.

3. John Dunham (*Joseph*¹). Born on 21 Oct 1782 in York, York, Maine.²¹ John died on 23 Dec 1845; he was 63.²² According to the death record of his son Rufus, John was a ship builder.

On 5 Oct 1809 when John was 26, he married **Hannah Emery** in Biddeford, York, Maine.²³ Born in 1785.²⁴ Hannah died in 1872; she was 87.²⁵

They had the following children:

- i. Jack. Born on 11 Feb 1810 in Biddeford, York, Maine.²⁶ Jack died in Biddeford, York, Maine, on 11 Sep 1810; he was <1.²⁷
- ii. Israel Pike. Born on 29 Mar 1813 in Biddeford, York, Maine.²⁸
- iii. Nancy. Born on 18 Nov 1813 in Biddeford, York, Maine.²⁹ Nancy died in Biddeford, York, Maine, on 21 Dec 1813; she was <1.³⁰
- 4 iv. Rufus (30 May 1815-20 Sep 1893)
- v. Jeremiah. Born on 18 Jul 1817 in Biddeford, York, Maine.³¹
- 5 vi. John (18 May 1819-?)

Third Generation

4. Rufus Dunham (*John*², *Joseph*¹). Born on 30 May 1815 in Biddeford, York, Maine.³² Rufus died in Deering, Cumberland, Maine, on 20 Sep 1893; he was 78.³³

²¹ "Vital Records of York, Maine," *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, p. 307.

²² Grave marker for John Dunham, Pine Grove Cemetery, Lot 60, Portland, Cumberland, Maine, found on findagrave.com

²³ *Vital Records of Biddeford, Maine Prior to 1856*, p. 172.

²⁴ Grave marker for Hannah Emery, Pine Grove Cemetery, Lot 60, Portland, Cumberland, Maine, found on findagrave.com

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ *Vital Records of Biddeford, Maine Prior to 1856*, p. 172.

²⁷ Ibid. p. 240.

²⁸ Ibid. p. 158.

²⁹ Ibid. p. 157.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid. p. 240.

³² Ibid. p. 240.

³³ Death Record of Rufus Dunham, Division of Vital Statistics, Maine State Board of Health, Augusta, Maine, FamilySearch, "Maine Vital Records 1670-1907."

Rufus first married [Emeline S.](#). Born abt 1811.³⁴ Emeline died on 28 Dec 1840; she was 29.³⁵

They had the following children:³⁶

- i. Emmaline C. Born abt 1840. Emmaline C. died on 17 Sep 1841; she was 1.
- ii. Lyman F. Born abt 1838. Lyman F. died on 22 Dec 1845; he was 7.

On 25 Aug 1845 when Rufus was 30, he second married [Emma B. Sargent](#) in Portland, Cumberland, Maine.³⁷ Born in 1826.³⁸ Emma died in 1910; she was 84.³⁹

They had the following children:⁴⁰

- i. Lyman F. Born abt 1847. Lyman F. died on 29 Aug 1850; he was 3.
- ii. Rufus W. Born abt 1848. Rufus W. died on 30 Aug 1850; he was 2.
- iii. Arthur. Born in 1856. Arthur died on 8 Jan 1857; he was 1.
- iv. Emeline Grace. Born abt 1857. Emeline Grace died on 30 Aug 1859; she was 2.

[5. John Dunham](#) ([John](#)², [Joseph](#)¹). Born on 18 May 1819 in Biddeford, York, Maine.⁴¹

John married [Frances E.](#) Born abt 1821.⁴²

They had the following children:⁴³

- i. Julia F. Born abt 1843.
- ii. Olivia. Born abt 1846.
- iii. Charles S. Born abt 1848.

³⁴ Nathan Hale Cemetery Collection, ca. 1780-1980, Image 8, Maine State Library, Augusta, found on FamilySearch.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ All from the Nathan Hale Cemetery Collection.

³⁷ Marriage Record of Rufus Dunham and Emma B. Sargent, Division of Vital Statistics, Maine State Board of Health, Augusta, Maine, FamilySearch, "Maine Vital Records 1670-1907."

³⁸ Nathan Hale Cemetery Collection.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ All from the Nathan Hale Cemetery Collection.

⁴¹ [Vital Records of Biddeford, Maine Prior to 1856](#), p. 240.

⁴² 1850 U. S. Federal Census, Westbrook, Cumberland, Maine.

⁴³ All from the 1850 Census.

Some considerations concerning James Dunham Jr.

Could James Dunham Jr. have been a member of this family? It's unlikely.

First of all, we can presume that the 1790 census record for this family would be accurate because Humphrey Pike, whose nephews Humphrey and Israel would marry Joseph's daughters Mary and Hephzibah, was a census marshall for York County.⁴⁴ So it does appear these families were close. Humphrey Pike would probably have noticed if any detail about the Dunhams was omitted. That would have included missing a young son named James.

If there were an omission in the 1790 census, one might assume we could find it correct it in the subsequent census of 1800. But the only additional family member listed there is a young boy, whose name we do not know.

Table 2: Family of Joseph Dunham of Biddeford in the 1800 Census

Census Classification	Number	Name	Age	Born
Males under 10	1	?	?	?
Males 10-15	1	John?	abt 18	1782
Males 16-25	1	Jeremiah	abt 22	1778
Males 26-44	0			
Males 45 and over	2	Joseph ?	at least 45 ?	bef 1756 ?
Females under 10	0			
Females 10-15	2	Mary Nancy	abt 16 abt 14	abt 1784 abt 1786
Females 16-25	0			
Females 26-44	1	Miriam	say 44	say 1756
Females 45 and over	0			

⁴⁴ United States Census Bureau, *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790: Maine*, Government Printing Office (Washington: 1908) p. 10.

Hephzibah, then aged 18, was not listed among the family because she had married Israel Pike two years before the census enumeration. Joseph Jr., of course, had died four years prior. John should be 17 or 18 at this time (depending on the date of the enumerator's visit); he would likely not have left the family until he married Hannah Emery in 1809. So did the enumerator make an error, putting the number in the wrong column? Who was the boy under 10? Was the male over 45 Joseph's father, or a relative with his own son under 10 years of age?

These are all interesting questions, but none of them suggest that a 12- to 13-year-old James Dunham Jr. was a member of this household, who would move alone 140 miles to Orland, a place where he had no family.

Comment from the editor, Gratia Dunham Mahony

Please refer to www.dunham-singletary.org and follow the line of Deacon John ¹ Dunham, Joseph ², Nathaniel ³, Ichabod ⁴ Dunham and note the children listed include Jeremiah ⁵ Dunham born before 21 January 1727/8 when his parents Ichabod and Mary Dunnam were received to full communion by the Church at Wells, Maine. The record states "also Jeremiah, son of Ichabod and Mary Dunnam". *Maine Marriages, 1771-1907* database from Family Search.org give the marriage of Jeremiah Dunham to Anna Frost 4 Feb. 1749 in Wells, York County, Maine. While there is no Vital Record to prove the birth of Joseph Dunham about 1750, the circumstantial evidence is very strong that Jeremiah and Anna (Frost) Dunham were the parents of Joseph ⁶ Dunham, the subject of the above article.